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Diana T Fritz 03/21/2007 05:43:13 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

June 11, 2003

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2796 - UNKNOWN)  
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR  
Captions: None  
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: SHARM AL SHEIKH AND AQABA SUMMITS WMD  
IN IRAQ ISRAEL ATTACKS HAMAS LEADERS  
Ref: None

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UNCLAS ABU DHABI 02796

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: PAO  
INFO: DCM ECON POL AMB  
Laser1:  
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: DCM:TWILLIAMS  
DRAFTED: PAO:AALKHATIB  
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI633  
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHLO RUEHFR  
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC  
DE RUEHAD #2796/01 1621000  
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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0362  
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0676  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0728  
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT  
RUCJACC/USCINCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//  
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 002796

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;  
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA  
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA  
USCINCENT FOR POLAD  
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: SHARM AL SHEIKH AND AQABA SUMMITS WMD  
IN IRAQ ISRAEL ATTACKS HAMAS LEADERS

¶1. SUMMARY: THE SHARM AL SHEIKH AND AQABA SUMMITS, THE US "FAILURE" TO FIND WMD IN IRAQ, AND ISRAEL'S ATTACK ON HAMAS LEADERS GENERATED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL PRINT AND SATELLITE MEDIA. AN "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIAL COMMENTED ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S "ANNOYANCE" AT THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON HAMAS LEADER ABDULAZIZ AL RANTEESI YESTERDAY. UNDER THE "AL ITTIHAD" HEADLINE, "FUTURE OF IRAQ," DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA COMMENTED ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN IRAQ. ANOTHER "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT THE U.S. "FAILURE" TO FIND WMD IN IRAQ IS A "STORM" IN THE FACE OF PRESIDENT BUSH AND PM BLAIR. AN "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIAL ASSERTED THAT THE U.S. IS NOT ALLOWING OTHER PARTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADMAP. END SUMMARY.

¶2. DUBAI-BASED BUSINESS-ORIENTED ARABIC DAILY "AL BAYAN" CARRIED A TWO-PART INTERVIEW WITH FORMER IRAQI REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN MOHAMMED AL DOURI. DURING HIS INTERVIEW, HE CRITICIZED THE PREVIOUS REGIME AND ALL THE CRIMES COMMITTED DURING THAT ERA. MR. AL DOURI ALSO CLAIMED THAT ALL THAT IS HAPPENING IN IRAQ, INCLUDING THE LOOTING, WAS PLANNED BY THE U.S. AND THAT U.S. POLICY IN IRAQ MIGHT LEAD TO A CIVIL WAR.

¶3. COMMENTING ON THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT OF ABDULAZIZ AL RANTEESI YESTERDAY AND ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S "ANNOYANCE" TOWARDS WHAT HAPPENED, ABU DHABI-BASED SEMI-GOVERNMENT "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIALIZED 6/11:

"... THE GOAL BEHIND THIS ATTEMPT IS OBVIOUS ... THAT IS WHY IT DESERVES THE AMERICAN ANGER THAT WAS RIGHT ON TIME ... ISRAEL SHOULD STOP ITS POLICY OF DELUDING THE WORLD AND SHOULD REALIZE THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO REALLY JOIN A SERIOUS AND JUST PEACE PROCESS WHICH HAS LONG BEEN AWAITED IN THE REGION."

¶4. CRITICIZING ISRAEL'S ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON AL RANTEESI, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 6/11:

"... THERE IS NO SOLUTION WITH THESE ASSASSINS. AFTER 55 YEARS OF 'ATTEMPTING' THEM, IT IS TIME FOR THE CONCERNED PEOPLE IN PALESTINE AND THE ARAB COUNTRIES TO STOP THESE 'ATTEMPTS' AND 'TESTS' THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE SURRENDER OF THE WHOLE REGION, NOT ONLY PALESTINE, TO THOSE 'NAZIS' AND ALL WHO SUPPORT THEM AND COVER UP FOR THEIR MASSACRES ..."

¶5. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "WHO WILL STOP SHARON," ABU DHABI-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AKHBAR AL ARAB" EDITORIALIZED 6/11:

"... THE GOVERNMENT OF SHARON WILL NOT MISS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASIZE ITS HOSTILITY TOWARDS PEACE AND ITS INSISTENCE ON BURYING ANY CHANCE FOR THIS PROCESS (PEACE). THE OBLIGATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS TO EXPRESS ITS REFUSAL OF THIS GOVERNMENT'S HOSTILE AND IMMORAL BEHAVIOR ..."

¶6. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "MOTHER OF SCANDALS," "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 6/10:

"... THE SCANDALS OF ATTACKS AND OCCUPATION WILL NOT END, THE WEAPONS ISSUE IS A LIE, THE UNNEEDED DEMOCRACY, HANDING OVER THE POSTPONED ADMINISTRATION TO IRAQIS, THE OIL THAT IS BEING STOLEN, AND THE INSECURITY AND INSTABILITY ARE ALL INITIAL INDICATIONS OF THE 'MOTHER OF SCANDALS'."

¶7. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "FUTURE OF IRAQ," DR. SHAMLAN AL EISSA WROTE IN "AL ITTIHAD" ON 6/08:

"... NO ONE CAN DENY THAT THE U.S. TROOPS OCCUPYING IRAQ HAVE PARTICIPATED LARGELY IN THE DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION ... MOST IMPORTANTLY IS THE POLITICAL FUMBLING OF THE U.S. IN IRAQ THROUGH THE GOVERNOR OF BAGHDAD ... WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS FOR THE IRAQI PEOPLE AFTER ITS LIBERATION? THE IRAQI PEOPLE AND THE NATIONAL POWERS ARE STILL IN CONFLICT REGARDING A CLEAR WORK PROGRAM, THAT IS WHY IT WILL BE A MESS IF THE AMERICANS LEAVE IRAQ BEFORE STARTING A NEW FOUNDATION OPERATING IN DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY, AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ... THE IRAQI PEOPLE SHOULD INSIST ON REQUESTING THAT THE OCCUPYING TROOPS ORGANIZE THE SITUATION IN IRAQ ... THE GULF COUNTRIES HAVE A BIG RESPONSIBILITY IN HELPING THE IRAQI PEOPLE OVERCOME THEIR CRISIS. HUMANITARIAN AID AND PARTICIPATING IN RECONSTRUCTION ARE TWO POSITIVE STEPS, BUT WHAT IS ALSO NEEDED IS THAT THE GULF

COUNTRIES, THROUGH THEIR SATELLITE TV CHANNELS, SHOULD CALM THINGS DOWN AND NOT MOBILIZE THE ARAB STREET AGAINST THE U.S ..."

¶8. COMMENTING ON THE U.S. TAKING SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ROADMAP, "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 6/07:

"... FOR THE U.S. TO BE THE ONLY DECISION MAKER, THIS WILL NOT FULFILL THE DESIRED LASTING SOLUTION AND FAIR RESPONSIBILITY IN THE LEAST, SINCE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION MINIMIZES ANY HOPE OF A JUST SOLUTION. AGAIN THE U.S., 'VICTORIOUS' IN IRAQ, IMPOSED ITS REGIONAL AGENDA BY DOMINATING THE DECISION FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE ON THE BASIS OF GUARANTEEING THE 'ZIONIST COUNTRY'S' SECURITY, EVEN IF THIS MEANS CREATING A PALESTINIAN CIVIL WAR SEEDED AT BOTH THE SHARM AL SHEIKH AND AQABA SUMMITS."

¶9. URGING THAT ALL CONFLICTS AMONG PALESTINIANS BE OVERCOME, "AL-BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED 6/07:

"... WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARE AGAINST PALESTINIAN AND ARAB BENEFITS, WHICH IS WHY ALL PALESTINIAN SIDES SHOULD REACH A UNIFIED VISION IN ORDER TO OVERCOME ALL CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES THAT THE OCCUPATION IS TRYING TO PUT BEFORE THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ..."

¶10. COMMENTING ON THE U.S. "FAILURE" TO FIND WMD IN IRAQ AS A "STRONG" IN BUSH AND BLAIR'S FACES BUT ASSERTING THAT THE ISSUE FOR THE IRAQI PEOPLE WAS NOT WMD BUT GETTING RID OF THE REGIME, "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIALIZED ON 6/06:

"... ALTHOUGH BUSH AND BLAIR FAILED TO FIND EVIDENCE TO JUSTIFY THEIR WAR, THE IRAQI PEOPLE ARE SCORING SUCCESS EACH DAY BY REVEALING THE CRIMES OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME ... SO THE ISSUE FOR THE IRAQI PEOPLE WAS NOT FINDING THE WMD ALTHOUGH THEY WERE ITS FIRST VICTIMS, BUT THE ISSUE WAS GETTING RID OF THE REGIME THAT MADE IRAQ A PRISON ..."

¶11. UNDER THE HEADLINE "NOT FOR PEACE," "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 6/05:

"... THROUGH A THOROUGH READING OF WHAT WAS ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING THE SHARM AL SHEIKH AND AQABA SUMMITS, WE COULD SIMPLY UNDERSTAND THE INDICATION THAT THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM- WHATEVER ITS MOTIVES AND REASONS- MEANS THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND NO ONE ELSE, AND WHICH MEANS THAT WHAT ISRAEL COMMITS AGAINST THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE DOES NOT FALL UNDER THIS DESCRIPTION (TERRORISM) ... PRESIDENT BUSH'S CONCERN IS NOT PEACE WITHIN ITS TRUE MEANING, BUT HIS CONCERN IS TO INSURE AMERICAN PEACE IN THE REGION AFTER OCCUPYING IRAQ, IN ADDITION TO GUARANTEEING ISRAEL'S SECURITY EVEN IF THROUGH A PALESTINIAN CIVIL WAR, AND ALSO PLACING SYRIA AND LEBANON ON THE SHELF UNTIL THEIR TURN COMES FOLLOWING THE END OF THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, SINCE THE REQUEST IS THE SAME: ERASING ANY RESISTANCE AND ANY STAND THAT MAY STOP AGREEMENTS WITH ZIONIST CONDITIONS."

WAHBA